

California Memorial Project at Metropolitan State Hospital



LA County Department of Mental Health joined Metropolitan State Hospital, Disability Rights California, Project Return and Westside Center for Independent Living for a day of remembrance at the 13th Annual Remembrance Day Ceremony held at Metropolitan State Hospital on Monday, September 21st, 2015.

This year's guest speaker was our very own Helena Ditko, Director of Consumer and Family Affairs and a poem written in Spanish by Eliseo Gonzales of Project Return was read in English by Maria Salas of San Pedro Mental Health.



In 2010, the state legislature established the 3rd Monday of September as the California Memorial Project's Remembrance Day. Since then, various sites observe a day of remembrance for those with psychiatric or developmental disabilities who lived in state institutions and were buried there.

The ceremony was touching as poems and personal accounts of hope, wellness and recovery were shared by residents, their family and community members. The event ended with a beautiful demonstration of prayers and fond memories as balloons were released in their memory ♥

For more information please visit the [CMP Website](#)